

probable that the entire Indian force approximated 3,000 warriors, who were daily
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growing / more hostile and more and more reckless. The general direction of
the entire campaign was in the hands of Red Cloud; Crazy Horse, though inferior
in social standing to Man Afraid, was Red Cloud's principal lieutenant among the
Oglalas and Roman Nose from among the Cheyennes. Black Moon was the recognized
leader of the Missouri River Indians. It was no small task to provision Red Cloud's
camp and supply them with ammunition, yet he managed his commissary so admirably
that throughout the two years of the campaign there was no suffering among his
people and no shortage of ammunition. Hunting parties were sent into the buffalo
ranges who brought in an abundance of meat and enough of his friends were "good
in an abundance of meat and enough of his friends were "good Indians," staying about
the agencies, to secure a supply of ammunition, which was secretly borne away
to the hostile camp, to keep his arsenal well stocked. The good Indians, too,
found a ready market for the robes and furs which the hostiles took, and the returns
from these eked out his subsistence. In every respect Red Cloud subsisted and
equipped his army better than did the United States government its forlorn hope
under Carrington.

By this time all of the warehouses at the new fort were finished and it was
estimated that one large wood train would furnish enough logs to finish the
hospital, which alone needed attention. Impressed by Powell's report, after an
affair on the afternoon of the 19th of December, Carrington himself accompanied
the lumber train of December 20th, built a bridge across to Piney Island to facili-
tate quick hauling and returned to the fort to prepare for one more, the last,
trip. No Indians appeared on that date. A large amount of fire wood, including
all of the slabs from the sawmills, had been accumulated. Carrington was a man
of great prudence, so prudent indeed as to create great dissatisfaction among
his subordinates. Some of them, including Fetterman and Brown, offered with
eighty men to ride through the entire Sioux nation. Carrington was wise enough
to see that such folly would lead to utter destruction. "Ammunition was running
low, there was at one time only forty rounds a man available. Repeated requests